

(Clean copy of amended claims)

1. (Thrice amended) A snowboard for sliding over snow, comprising:

an elongated slide board having a slide surface on a lower surface thereof; and

C1 an elongated step board defining a deck on an upper surface thereof, and attached to an upper surface of the slide board in a substantially parallel and spaced relationship via a connecting member made of substantially non-compressible material; and

the connecting member retains the slide board and step board in a fixed, substantially parallel and spaced relationship in the immediate vicinity of the connecting member during use of the snowboard.

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2. (Twice amended) A snowboard for sliding over snow, comprising:

C2 an elongated slide board having a slide surface on a lower surface thereof; and

an elongated step board defining a deck on an upper surface thereof, and attached to an upper surface of the slide board via a connecting mechanism made of substantially non-compressible material such that the slide and step boards remain in a fixed, substantially parallel and spaced relationship in the immediate vicinity of the connecting mechanism during use of the snowboard.

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3. (Amended) A snowboard according to claim 1, wherein the slide and step boards are

2 connected via the connecting member so as to substantially prohibit relative pivoting between
C1 the boards about the connecting member.

18. (Amended) A snowboard for sliding over snow, comprising:

an elongated slide board having a slide surface on a lower surface thereof;

an elongated step board defining a deck on an upper surface thereof; and

a connecting mechanism made of substantially non-compressible material connecting

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the step board to an upper surface of the slide board so as to substantially prohibit relative pivoting between the boards in the immediate vicinity of the connecting mechanism during use of the snowboard.
